

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: CA Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 'N' Street – Main Auditorium
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Executive Director
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MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 29, 2009

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

- (a) The meeting was called to order Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at approximately 9:08 a.m. Al Montna, President of the State Board of Food and Agriculture presiding.
- (b) Welcoming remarks provided by President Al Montna.
- (c) Pledge of Allegiance.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Al Montna	Michael Darnell	Arlan Van Leeuwen
Ashley Boren	Luawanna Hallstrom	Craig McNamara
Daniel Dooley	Adan Ortega, Jr.	David Wehner
Marvin Meyers	Kerry Tucker	Thomas Deardorff II
Donald Bransford		

Absent:

Karen Ross	Donald Valpredo
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(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 25, 2009

MOTION: Board member Adan Ortega moved to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2009 meeting. Board member Craig McNamara seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Undersecretary Will Brown provided a departmental update to the Board. Topics included: Specialty Block Grant Program, county fairs and the current drought status. John Hewitt, Acting Chief Counsel, provided additional information relating to the statewide drought. Dr. Annette Whiteford, director of Animal Health and Food Safety Services, provided an update on the current H1N1 virus.

(5) PANEL DISCUSSIONS

The Board had two panel discussions focusing on natural resources and the environment.

FIRST PANEL DISCUSSION

Speakers included:

- Rudy Rosen, Ducks Unlimited
- Graham Chisholm, Audubon California
- Gregory A. Thomas, Natural Heritage Institute

The panel discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

SECOND PANLE DISCUSSION

Speakers included:

- Laura Harnish, Environmental Defense Fund
- Christina Swanson, The Bay Institute
- David Guy, Yosemite Association

The panel discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(6) AG VISION DISCUSSION

The Board conducted a discussion on the California Agricultural Vision. Topics included: the partnership with American Farmland Trust, timeframe and operational model, and Board participation.

Speakers included:

- Edward Thompson, Jr., American Farmland Trust

The Ag Vision discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(7) OTHER BUSINESS

The Board reviewed issues discussed during the meeting. It was determined that Board members Don Bransford and Marvin Meyers were to coordinate and develop a regulatory timeline relating to issues surrounding the statewide drought.

(8) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public comment was provided.

(9) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:09 p.m.